DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY G.M.Raz DATE 6/6/1982
FROM or NEXT REVIEW DATE
NEA/NR
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September 27 1957

In reply refer to NEA/NR

REGISTERED

839.19 773.5-MSP

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Dear Admiral Bergin:

In confirmation of our recent informal conversations regarding Libya, I should like to reiterate that the Department of State attaches great political importance to the implementation, on an urgent basis, of our longstanding military aid commitment to this country. I need hardly recall that the original United States assurances to the Libyan Government to provide military equipment for a thousand-man increment to their army were given in April 1956, almost a year and a half ago. For various reasons, particularly the problem of getting a military assistance agreement signed, no tangible steps toward the fulfillment of this commitment were taken in the interval. The Agreement was, however, signed on June 30; and the course of events since then in the Eastern Mediterranean area make it imperative on political grounds that we act urgently to deliver this equipment to Libya. Otherwise, the effect on US-Libyan relations will be most detrimental to our interests.

We should be most grateful for any assistance which you could give us to this end. We understand informally in this regard that ICA has indicated to the Department of Defense that it regards the Libyan MAP, for all practical purposes, as already approved so that action on it need not await the formal approval of the FY 58/1 program.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Palmer 2nd
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for African Affairs

Admiral Charles K. Bergin,
Department of Defense (OASD/ISA).
Washington 25, D. C.

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Final 68
Rev.
Cat II(c)

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773.5 MSP/9-2757
773.5-MSP/9-2757
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